

Niloufar Shiri & Hesam Abedini - Honors Recital

May 19, 2017 – 5 p.m.
Conrad Prebys Concert Hall

Shadow (2017)

Niloufar Shiri

Tarh (2017)

Niloufar Shiri

Suffering (2017)

Hesam Abedini

- I. Suffering
- II. Birth
- III. Act I
- IV. Blood in the place of water

I composed **Shadow** and **Tarh** based on two different poems of Hushang Ebtehaj, an Iranian Contemporary poet. In the past seven years poetry has changed my life or in other words I had the opportunity to learn how to read and listen to poem and how to respect it as a farseeing and wise teacher who speak to you in the language of present.

I respect poetry as much as I imagine the poet sitting in the audience and I imagine that if she/he is going to clap at the end or throw tomato to me!

I dedicate these pieces to my teachers.

The world has never been a safe place for humans to live in since we learned how to kill. So many human beings have been labeled as casualties of war or displaced from their homes. So many had to flee to refugee camps after losing their families and friends, hoping to survive another day. Then there is the soldier who is forced to kill another human in the name of his country and people, with the hope to see another day. **Suffering** is a mini-opera in eight movements based on poems by Ahmad Shamloo and Fereydoun Moshiri. The original poems are in Farsi but in this piece I have used the English translations by Dr. Fatemeh Keshavarz while the Farsi version has been used as inspiration for musical content.

Josh Charney, piano | Sean Dowgray, percussion | Judith Hamann, Cello
Lauren Jones, soprano | Michael Matsuno, flute | Kyle Motl, double bass
Ryan Nestor, percussion | Jonathan Nussman, baritone

Niloufar Shiri is an Iranian-American Performer, Improviser, and Composer and has graduated from the Tehran Music Conservatory. Since 2004, She has been studying Kamancheh under the supervision of maestro Saeed Farajpouri. She has been a member of the Sibarg Ensemble since 2010. Currently, She is studying and researching Persian Classical music theory under the direction and supervision of Dr. Hossein Omoumi, Maseeh Professor of Music at the University of California, Irvine. Niloufar is currently pursuing her bachelor in composition at the University of California, San Diego where she studies with Lei Liang, Mark Dresser and Anthony Davis. Recently, Niloufar was admitted to the Ph.D. Program in Integrated Composition, Improvisation, and Technology at UC Irvine where he has been awarded a Dean's Fellowship from the Claire Trevor School of the Arts as well as a UC Irvine Diversity Recruitment Fellowship.

Hesam Abedini is a graduate of the Tehran Music Conservatory, founding member of the Sibarg Ensemble and the director of "From Isfahan to Irvine," a documentary film supported by the National Endowment for the Arts. He received his diploma in piano performance and composition in 2009 and also studied at the Yerevan Conservatory in Armenia from 2007 - 2010. Since 2011, he has been researching classical Persian music theory and studying the Persian vocal repertoire under the direction and supervision of Dr. Hossein Omoumi, Maseeh Professor of Music at UC Irvine. Hesam is the recipient of the Turetzky, Stout, and Chancellor's Awards at UCSD. Currently, he is pursuing his bachelor's degree in Music Composition (Honors program) from UCSD, where he studies with Dr. Lei Liang, Chinary Ung, Mark Dresser and Anthony Davis. Recently, Hesam was admitted to the Ph.D. Program in Integrated Composition, Improvisation, and Technology at UC Irvine where he has been awarded a Dean's Fellowship from the Claire Trevor School of the Arts as well as a UC Irvine Diversity Recruitment Fellowship.

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